

Kindred Spirits Worship
APRIL 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES

One:

Called to live with respect in Creation
as Indigenous, Métis, Settler and Newcomer people,
we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn and serve,
and the water which sustains life on this land,
is of God, Creator,
and in the farthest reaches of memory
was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land,
and to their descendants.

One:

With the coming of colonizers,
treaties were made,
but again and again the colonizers disregarded and broke the treaties,
causing grave and lasting harm to the historic caregivers of the land,
to the generations that followed them,
and to the land itself.

All:

Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation,
we who gather here on Treaty One territory
commit ourselves to finding faithful ways
of honouring the treaties, the land and one another
in a spirit of openhearted respect.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT:

When Paul invited me to lead worship on this Sunday, he asked if I was aware of the tradition of the Sunday after Easter being designated Holy Humour Sunday...because apparently some members of this faith community are familiar with the tradition. I told him that I was familiar with Holy Humour Sunday. The tradition goes back to the early centuries of Christianity when the week after Easter was designated as 'days of joy and laughter' in some predominantly Christian countries. People hosted picnics and parties to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The Sunday after Easter was known as "Bright Sunday", In 1988, a group known as the Fellowship of Merry Christians, encouraged churches to rebirth 'Bright Sunday' as Holy Humour Sunday, with the theme "Jesus is the life of the party." So, today, let us worship with perhaps more of a smile on our faces than usual!

Let us pray:

In times of uncertainty and struggle, of conflicts and suffering, fill out hearts with compassion. Give us courage and insight for being agents of peace and healing in this world. In these times, let us also agents of joy and hope. Let us share tears and laughter as companions of Jesus. Deepen our faith, that we may live as resurrection people. AMEN

HYMN: Laugh with Sarah

A STORY FOR ALL

HYMN: VU#352 I Danced in the Morning

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 150

John 20:19-31

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Turn Back O Man"

REFLECTION:

HYMN: VU#359 He Came Singing Love

OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Doxology VU#539 God of All Good vs. 1

Let us Pray:

God, we present our offerings of money, of time and talent, of faith-filled living. Bless us that we might use all our gifts and offerings to do your works of love and healing in our communities and throughout the world. AMEN.

CENTERING MUSIC

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG VU# 959)

AMEN

HYMN VU#624 Give To Us Laughter

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

Choral Blessing:

Amen (VU#974) 3X

Postlude